



COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
(Original Application - Sole Inventor - Priority Claimed)

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare: that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated near my name below; that I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter of which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**METHOD OF INSERTING A FASTENER ELEMENT, BOTH
ELEMENT, RIVETING DIE AND COMPONENT ASSEMBLY**

which is described and claimed in United States Application Serial No. 09/029,425
which was filed on March 4, 1998 and amended by an amendment thereto submitted therewith (if any); that I have reviewed and understand the contents of this specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above; that I do not know and do not believe the same was ever known or used in the United States of America before my invention thereof or patented or described in any printed publication, in any country before my invention thereof for more than one year prior to this application, or in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application; that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve (12) months prior to this application; that I acknowledge my duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a); and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention has been filed in any country foreign to the United States of America prior to this application by me or my legal

representatives or assigns except as follows:

PRIORITY CLAIM

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America or United States Provisional Application listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) or patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

| Prior Foreign Applications(s) | | | Priority Claimed | |
|-------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------------|----|
| <u>PCT/EP96/04188</u> | <u>PCT</u> | <u>25 September 1996</u> | <u>X</u> | |
| (Number) | (Country) | (Day/Mo./Yr. Filed) | Yes | No |

I hereby appoint Raymond E. Scott, Registration No. 22,981; William H. Honaker, Registration No. 31,623; Theodore W. Olds, Registration No. 33,080; John E. Carlson, Registration No. 37,794; Harold W. Milton, Jr., Registration No. 22,180; David J. Gaskey, Registration No. 37,139; David R. Kurlandsky, Registration No. 41,505; Robin W. Asher, Registration No. P41,590; Samuel J. Haidle, Registration No. P42,619; Kerrie A. Laba, Registration No. P42,777; Randall L. Shoemaker, Registration No. P43,118; Eric L. Doyle, Registration No. P42,496 and Jeffrey A. Sadowski, Registration No. 29,005 as my attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith. Please address all correspondence and telephone calls to Raymond E. Scott at:

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HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

1400 North Woodward Avenue

Suite 101

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304-2856

(248) 645-1483

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Dated: March 23, 1998

Full Name of Sole or First Inventor: Rudolf Müller

Inventor's Signature: Rudolf R. Müller

Residence: Fasanenweg 6, D-60437 Frankfurt, Germany JPX

Citizenship: German

Post Office Address: As above.

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**VERIFIED STATEMENT BY ASSIGNEE CLAIMING
SMALL ENTITY STATUS [37 C.F.R. 1.9(f) and 1.27(c)]
(Small Business Concern)**

I hereby declare that I am an official of Profil Verbindungstechnik, GmbH & Co. empowered to act on its behalf.

I hereby declare that the above-identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention entitled:

**METHOD OF INSERTING A FASTENER ELEMENT, BOLT ELEMENT,
RIVETING DIE AND COMPONENT ASSEMBLY**

by inventor(s) Rudolf Müller described in United States Application Serial No. 09/029,425
filed on March 4, 1998.

If the rights held by the above-identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under CFR 1.9(d): NONE

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status result in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status

as a small entity is no longer appropriate. [37 CFR 1.28(b)].

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Profil Verbindungstechnik, GmbH & Co.

Dated: 23.2.88

By: 

Hans Broich
Otto-Hahn-Str. 22-24
61381 Friedrichsdorf
Germany

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